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January 22, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I am writing today to encourage the Department of Justice to accept the Microsoft antitrust settlement. Microsoft and the technology industry need to move on. A settlement is available and the terms are fair. I would like to see the government accept it and leave Microsoft alone.

Many people think that Microsoft has gotten off easy, in fact they have not. The settlement was arrived at after extensive negotiations with a court-appointed mediator. Microsoft agreed to terms that extend well beyond the products and procedures that were actually at issue in the suit, simply for the sake of putting an end to the issue. For example, Microsoft will adhere to a uniform licensing agreement and will allow other companies to place their own software on the Windows operating system.

Microsoft, the industry and the government all need to move on. This issue has been dragged out for over three years and needs to be settled. Please accept the Microsoft antitrust settlement.

Sincerely,



Patrick Weldon